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Ronald J. Kubovcik (Registration No. 25,401)

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Appl. No. :

10/523,416

Confirmation No. 6302

Applicant

cant : Takashi OCHI et al.

Filed

March 21, 2005

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Examiner

Newton O. Edwards

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RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

DATED JANUARY 24, 2006

(Due: February 24, 2006)

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#### FEB 1 4 2006

PATENT

#### IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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I hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted on February 14, 2006, to the United States Patent and Trademark Office to facsimile number (571)273-8300.

Ronald J. Kubovcik

#### RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT DATED JANUARY 24, 2006

#### Mail Stop Amendment

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

February 14, 2006

#### Sir:

This paper is submitted in response to the Office Action dated January 24, 2006.

In the Action, restriction is required between:

- Claims 1 and 3 to 16, directed to a porous fiber of (I) unconnected pores;
- Claim 2, directed to a porous fiber of connected (II)

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pores;

- (III) Claims 17 to 20, 22 to 27 and 31, directed to a fiber having an islands-in-sea structure;
- (IV) Claims 21, 28 to 30 and 32, directed to a layered structure fiber;
- (V) Claims 33 to 35, directed to pellets made from a blend of polyamide and polyester;
- (VI) Claim 37, directed to a pellet made from a blend containing polyether ester
- (VII) Claims 38 to 41, directed to methods of meltspinning a fiber.

Applicants elect the subject matter of group (III), claims 17 to 20, 22 to 27 and 31, for prosecution in this application. This election is made with traverse on the basis that claims 28 to 30 and 32 are not included in the Group (III) claims. In the present Action, claims 28 to 30 and 32 are included only with Group (IV). However, claims 28 to 30 recite a dependency on claim 17 or claim 21 and claim 32 recites a dependency on claim 30. Thus, claims 28 to 30 and 32 are directed to a fiber having an islands-in-sea structure and should be examined with the Group (III) claims.

The foregoing is believed to be a complete and proper response to the Office Action dated January 24, 2006. A favorable action on the merits of the elected subject matter is believed to be in order

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and is respectfully solicited.

In the event any fees are required, please also charge our Deposit Account No. 111833.

Respectfully submitted,

KUBOVCIK & KUBOVCIK

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